

PENSIONERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

W. C. T. Malaga, Ohio.—The \$30 rate would be allowed only in case the wounded limb were practically useless. If, however, the pensioner is wholly disabled for the performance of manual labor in consequence of wounded limb and results, the \$30 rate should be allowed.

J. O. T. Amsterdam, Mo.—The U. S. Court of Claims holds that the Pension Service volunteers of 1862 are entitled to extra pay (two months) under the act of Jan. 12, 1862, but the Treasury Department resists the holding pending a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court.

A Subscriber, Chicago.—Consult the member of Congress from your Congressional District relative to your pension bill. The member of Congress from your district will have a strong voice in your favor.

J. J. Knosburg, Falls.—If you wish to withdraw the appeal in your pension case, it will be sufficient to address a letter to the Secretary of the Interior stating that you withdraw it. If the committee of Congress has your pension bill under consideration the bill could be withdrawn at any time. If the committee of Congress is unwilling to consider your case, you may wish to withdraw the appeal. You would better withdraw the appeal.

T. O. Louisville, Ky.—The ex-slave pension bill has never been a law and is not likely to be. It has never been favorably reported from committee.

Mrs. W. S. Milo, Ind.—To secure the continuation of pension for a child beyond the age of 16, it is necessary to file a new application after the child becomes 16. The pension is then continued on from the date of filing the application. Also, when a widow pensioner remarries or dies, leaving children of the soldier entitled to pension, a new application must be made by the child or children. The pension is then continued on from the date of the widow's remarriage or death, if the pension is allowed under the general law, or from the date of such application if under the act of 1890.

F. M. A. Emerald, N. Dak.—If an invalid pension claimant fails to report for medical examination at the time specified, the order issued by the Pension Bureau in November, 1900, on the ground that the evidence failed to show that the disease of lungs of which the soldier died in 1867 was the cause of the disability, is not a final decision. An appeal from this action was taken on the ground that service origin of the soldier's fatal disease was established in the evidence.

H. C. G. Croghan, N. Y.—There is no specified time for "almost total" deafness of one ear and severe deafness of the other. The general law rate for severe deafness of both ears, whether the deafness occurred before or after the war, is \$10. If in addition to this degree of deafness the claimant has other disability of service origin, which, with the deafness, is regarded as equivalent to loss of limbs, or a hand or foot, he may be allowed \$24 on the combined disabilities, or \$30 if he is wholly incapacitated thereby for manual labor.

G. S. M. Geddes, S. Dak.—You have been misinformed. No law has been enacted increasing the general law rate of invalid pensioners. The act of March 3, 1890, is the law in this respect.

G. W. C. National Military Home, Cal.—The provision of law for the supplying of artificial limbs or commutation therefor relates only to losses of limbs, or a hand or foot, and not to the loss of a hand or foot, which is shown to be due to the service and line of duty.

O. F. S. Brandon, Vt.—The act of March 3, 1890, is the law in this respect. It changed the law of June 27, 1890, as to the requirement of that act that widow claimants thereafter shall have been married to the soldier before the death of the soldier.

J. S. S. Dexter, Mo.—To collect pay for services as a soldier, for horses and equipments lost in such service, will very likely necessitate application for a special act of Congress. This will certainly be necessary unless there is some law to the contrary.

J. E. W. Wood, N. Y.—The pension law of June 27, 1890, is the law in this respect. It is held by the Interior Department that while the technical termination of pension after the death of the pensioner was not until Aug. 20, 1890, service rendered after July 1, 1865, will be presumed not to have been in said war, and where service was after the death of the pensioner, it will be presumed that the service rendered was in some actual connection with war then existing. Service rendered after April 2, 1866, must be shown to have been in some connection with the war as existing in the State of Texas.

A Subscriber, Williams, Ore.—Appeals from the Pension Bureau are addressed to the "Secretary of the Interior," and may be taken at any time after an adverse decision of the Pension Bureau, and may be taken at any time after an adverse decision of the Pension Bureau, and may be taken at any time after an adverse decision of the Pension Bureau.

E. W. Dunkel, Ill.—A U. S. pensioner removing to a foreign country continues to draw his pension the same as formerly. Probably he can do nothing but duly execute his vouchers to the proper authorities for a Minister or a U. S. Consul or before some local officer authorized to administer oaths for general purposes, and whose official seal must be certified to by U. S. Minister or Consul.

R. L. Marion, Ind.—The correction of the official record of the War Department and issuance of an honorable discharge would not necessitate the applicant filing thereafter new application for invalid pension under the act of June 27, 1890. The action of the War Department makes his pending application valid.

Many Comrades, Fowler, Ind.—Where an invalid pensioner dies, leaving behind a widow or a child under 16, and leaves sufficient assets to cover the expenses of last illness and burial, no payment of his unpaid pension will be made, neither his current pension nor an increase allowed him, but unpaid.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

NAVY PENSIONS—SECTIONS 4715, 4716, AND 4717, REVISED STATUTES. In the case of Elizabeth Sousa, widow of John Sousa, who died in 1862, and is reversed and it is held (Asst. Sec. Campbell, Feb. 14, 1902) that the allowance paid discharged sailors and marines under sections 4706 and 4707, Revised Statutes (after 20 and 10 years' service, respectively), is not a pension within the meaning of section 4715, Revised Statutes, and the provision of section 2, Act of March 27, 1890, which prohibits the payment of more than one separate and distinct "pension" covering the same period of time.

It is also held that the Commissioner of Pensions has no jurisdiction to determine whether the widow has the right to receive the unpaid pension withheld from the deceased marine husband from 1862, when he was granted a general law pension, till his death in 1892; the determination of that question resting with the Secretary of the Navy.

The decision states: "Although the money benefits granted by sections 4706 and 4707, Revised Statutes (section 6 of the Act of March 2, 1879), are, in a general sense, pensions, they are not pensions in the usual and ordinary acceptance of that term, and were intended to be a 'further provision for the support' of the beneficiaries thereunder in addition to pensions granted them by other laws. Section 4715, Revised Statutes, and the proviso to the second section of the Act of June 27, 1890, prohibiting the allowance of more than one pension at the same time to the same person, constitute,

PRIVATE BILLS.

Action Taken by the House on a Large Number of Claims.

On Saturday, April 12, the House of Representatives passed the following private pension bills:

Mary Jane Fankler, widow of Joseph Fankler, S. A. 1st War with Mexico; increase, \$16. (Senate Bill.)

Louise Ward, widow of George S. L. Ward, Captain, 22d U. S. Inf.; increase, \$25. (Senate Bill.)

Susan Hays, widow of John C. Hays, Colonel, 1st Texas Militia, war with Mexico; increase, \$30. (Senate Bill.)

Samuel J. Lamborn, Co. B, 1st Mo. Mid. Vols., war with Mexico; increase, \$16. (Senate Bill.)

Robert Watts, Co. H, 2d U. S. Vol. Engin., war with Spain; \$12.

Mary J. Fitch, widow of Seely J. Fitch, Co. D, 2d U. S. Art.; \$12, and \$2 additional on account of each child. (Senate Bill.)

Frances J. Abernethy, widow of Abner Abernethy, Capt. Ashurst's Company, Ala. Indian Vols., Creek Indian War, 85.

Thomas Wells, Seaman, U. S. N., war with Mexico; increase, \$16.

Richard G. Watkins, Seaman, U. S. N., war with Mexico; increase, \$16.

Alfred H. Kraus, widow of William Kraus, Captain, 3d U. S. Inf.; \$20.

John J. Manner, Co. B, 26th N. Y., war with Mexico; increase, \$12.

John Conner, Co. I, 10th U. S. Inf.; \$12.

John Blackler, Co. G, 96th Ill.; increase, \$20.

Elizabeth D. Harding, widow of Isaac N. Harding, Co. H, 40th Ind.; \$8.

John E. K. Scholfield, widow of Joseph J. Bates, Co. C, 1st Battalion Mass. H. A.; \$12.

David T. Knack, Hospital Steward, 4th U. S. Inf.; increase, \$10.

William Kinsman, Co. E, 9th Minn.; increase, \$24.

Charles W. Scholfield, widow of Walter Scholfield, Co. I, 9th Iowa; increase, \$12.

Daniel L. Malhotra, Captain, Co. N, 8th U. S. Inf.; increase, \$10.

Chas. B. Wingfield, Co. A, 1st U. S. Dragoons, war with Mexico; increase, \$25.

William L. Church, Co. B, 47th Ohio; increase, \$17.

Frederick L. Stoddard, Co. C, 122d Ohio; increase, \$20.

Margaret A. Stuart, widow of Hey T. Stuart, 5th Mtd Inf.; \$8.

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AFRIEND WITH THE COUNTERSIGN.

(Continued from first page.)

"Tell me," he said, "what command is nearest us in this direction. What says the Confed?"

"Give it up," said I.

"Berwick, seriously, I inquire how you know that the column which we first met was Confederate?"

"Captain, I heard one of them say 'reckon so.'"

"And, seriously again, I inquire how you know that we were fired on by Confederates?"

"What reply could I make? The Captain was hard on me, I thought. To answer that, I knew, I said nothing. The Confederates were firing on us."

"Did you hear speech, Captain?"

"What were the words? Repeat them, please, and naturally."

"Halt there!"

"Captain, you are not a Confederate."

"And I don't want to be a Northerner."

"Ah! He turns the tables. 'Hold, quick, ingenuities, capable.' You are right, an Englishman."

"I had said the words as perhaps a Virginian or perhaps a Marylander would speak—possibly he was from Baltimore. The man puzzled me, I said nothing. The Captain pressed me no further. I knew that he had lied."

"We entered the road again a mile northward of the scene of our adventure. The country here was large of trees and level; I could easily see a long distance to the front. We had been in the road but a few minutes when we discerned the forms of men on horses blocking the way, some 200 yards from us."

"Who comes there?"

"Friends with the counter-sign," I cried. The Captain had turned back with a jerk, but was now reassured.

"Halt, friends. Advance one, with the counter-sign."

"The Captain rode forward alone and gave the password. We were told by the man on post that they had been advanced to this spot from Manassas early in the night. The Captain was told that the 13th N. Y. Cav. under Col. Gibbs. We rode on through the old camp at Manassas, and took to the left for Centerville. The Captain was talking almost incessantly."

"Berwick, we made a night of it. 'If to have done the thing you gave in charge beget your happiness, be happy,' Gen. Meade, I swear his doubts are fled."

"He was very anxious, was he, Captain?"

"Anxious? He was a whole hornet's nest. For by his face straight shall you know his mind. You ought to have seen his message to Halleck."

"Trouble between him and Halleck? Sorry to hear it," said I.

"Pardon to you kind entreats, I have the honor to say that our General got the best of the man in Washington. But no more of this, Berwick. The thing is done, and I will not talk."

"His laugh sounded like iron."

"Berwick, how long have you been in the army?"

"Joined in, I believe—before Bull Run."

"Were you at Bull Run?"

"Yes, sir—twice."

"What regiment was it? Gen. Meade told me, but I've forgotten."

"11th Mass."

"You've had experience; follow the drum; point the ground gales, gales!"

"You follow me, you lead. When did the General detach you?"

"Very recently, sir. I feared that Sheridan had seen me on the 12th, when the Confederates closed and had stood in the midst of Gen. Meade's staff for half an hour, answering questions concerning Lee's movements; and I added: 'Where were you on the 12th, in the afternoon, Captain?'"

"The 12th? Let me see—oh, yes; Meade sent me to the south of the river; why?"

"That was the day of my first work for the General," said I.

"As we neared the lines there was the commotion that precedes movement. Everything was stir. Fires were surrounded by groups awaiting their breakfast. Evidently a march was to begin."

"And the Captain said dramatically, waving his hand: 'The silent hours, dawn, and daisy darkness breaks within the east.'"

"Captain," said I, "I feel that I have ridden with Shakespeare."

"Don't laugh, Berwick; I can't help it. You see, I rode the boards for five years in Old England."

"I doubted the England part, and my doubt of the man's integrity made me resolve not to trust him. I deplored the fact that Gen. Meade had told Sheridan that I could pass anywhere; I must have this man, but I must not let him watch me."

"Halleck telegraphed to Meade: 'Lee is unquestionably bluffing you. If you can ascertain his movements, I can't help it. If you will pursue and fight him, I think you will find out where he is. I know of no other way.'"

"Meade replied: 'You have any orders to give me, I am prepared to receive and obey them, but I must insist on being spared the infliction of such truisms in my own headquarters. You have recently honored me with, particularly as they were not asked for. I take this occasion to repeat what I have before stated, that if my course, based on my own judgment, does not meet with approval, I ought to be, and desire to be relieved from command.' (Ed.)"

(To be continued.)

THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

The Committee on Public Comfort Issues a Circular in Regard to Accommodations.

The Committee on Public Comfort—M. I. Weller, Chairman, Seventh and D streets, Washington, D. C.—has issued the following circular in regard to applications for quarters:

1st. All applications and correspondence relating to quarters for organizations, parties or individuals should be addressed to the above-named committee at the above-stated address.

2d. The offices of the committee will be open from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. on each business day for personal communication with visitors or inquiring friends resident at Washington, and upon the near approach of the Encampment they will be open without regard to days or hours.

3d. Beginning with the Saturday before Encampment week, branch offices of the committee will be established at each of the two railroad stations where arriving visitors can select or be directed to quarters, and escorted to the same by guides in the interest of the committee.

4th. Whenever practicable and sufficiently convenient for organizations or large parties to have some person resident at or visiting Washington, act with the committee in the inspection and choice of accommodations, that course is strongly recommended. Every part of the Union is so well represented by residents or sojourner at the National Encampment that this personal co-operation can in most cases be readily arranged.

5th. Where organizations or parties numbering 10 or more wish to be quartered together, it is advisable that early communication be made to the committee. For individuals, couples, or very small parties, satisfactory quarters can be found up to the very beginning of the Encampment, though in such cases it would be well